

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-5. (Cancel)

6. (New) -4-nitroxybutyl ester of 2-(S)-(6-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propanoic acid having an enantiomeric excess of the (S) form higher than or equal to 97%.

7. (New) -4-nitroxybutyl ester of 2-(S)-(6-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propanoic acid having an enantiomeric excess of the (S) form higher than or equal to 98%.